ICOM INTERCOM 2026 Annual Conference

In Collaboration with Udaipur City Palace Museum 📍 Udaipur, India

Theme: " Building Bridges: Digital Transition and Climate Change in Museums' Narrative Transformation"

Kindly note that the times are in India Standard Time - IST (- 3 and half hours CEST)

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24TH

CLIMATE CHANGE & MUSEUMS

08:00 – 09:00 AM
Registrations & Welcome Tea

09:00 – 10:00 AM
OPENING REMARKS

- **Welcome Address - Institutional greetings**: Mayank Gupta - City Palace Museum
- In Memory: Cristina Maria Vannini - Martha Ikabongo and Goranka Horjan
- **Introduction to Conference Theme** - Martha Ikabongo - Interim INTERCOM Chair, Goranka Horjan - former INTERCOM Chair and ICOM Treasurer

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Climate Change: How it affects museums and their activities: **Eystein Markusson – NATHIST Board member and Director of Svalbard Museum**

10:00 – 10:15 AM
Tea / Coffee Break

10:15 AM – 11:20 PM

PECHAKUCHA SESSION – Round 1, Moderator: IVETA RUSKULE, INTERCOM Board member

(4 Presentations × 7 minutes each + transitions)

Focus: Case Studies, Urgency, Local Responses

- Arafat Ali: *Museums for Climate Action: NMST as a Living Laboratory*
- Dorjey Yuron: *From Community Conservation Area to Living Eco-Museum: A case study of Tar village, Ladakh.*
- Ar. Kajal Salgaonka*: Museums as Agents of Climate Awareness and Action: A Comparative Qualitative Case Study of the Museu do Amanhã (Museum of Tomorrow) Brazil and Indian Museums Against Climate Change (IMACC)*
- *Azfar Ahmad and Kriti Sen: Heritage, LiFE, and Hope: A Museum-Led Environmental Stewardship*

11:20 PM - 11:45 Q &A Session

11:45 – 12:05 PM

PECHAKUCHA SESSION – Round 2, *Moderator:* Jurica Sabol, ICOM SEE Chair

(4 Presentations × 7 minutes each + transitions)

Focus: Innovation, Sustainability Models, Community Action

- Alenka Kroselj Cernelic: *Managing Immovable and Movable Heritage in the 21st Century: the Brežice Castle and the Knight's Hall, case study for managing Museums and Climate Action*
- Jens Bortloff: *How a museum can contribute to climate change mitigation from a 360-degree view*
- Metowui Hospice Klebo: *Rethinking museum practices in the context of climate change in West Africa: digital tools, participatory management and indigenous knowledge - Online*

- Tejshivi Jain: *Beyond Awareness: How Indian Museums Are Learning to Act on Climate Change*

12:05 – 12:20 PM Q&A session

12:20 PM - 02:00 PM Lunch Break

02:00 – 03:00 PM

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

"Museums as Climate Actors: Responsibility vs Capacity" Moderator: **IVETA RUSKULE, INTERCOM Board member**

Moderated multi-stakeholder dialogue

- Audience participation encouraged

03:00 – 03:15 PM
Tea / Coffee Break

03:15 – 04:15 PM

WORKSHOP - Alenka Kroselj, Eyestein Markusson

- Practical tools, frameworks and strategies
- Interactive group work

04:15 – 04:45 PM
Day 1 Wrap-Up & Reflections - Audience

05:00 – 6:00 PM

MUSEUM TOUR - UDAIPUR CITY PALACE

7:00 pm onwards

NETWORKING & DINNER

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATIONS – AI, BIG DATA & MUSEUMS

08:00 – 09:00 AM
Registrations & Welcome Tea

09:00 – 09:15 AM

Opening Remarks – Day 2 Context Setting, City Palace Representative

09:20 – 10:05 AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

"Technology vs Authenticity: Where Do Museums Stand?" SILVIA CENDRON - Strategic Coordination MUSEO EGIZIO, Turin, Italy

10:10 – 10:30 AM
Tea / Coffee Break

10:30 AM – 11:35 AM

PECHAKUCHA SESSION – Round 1 MODERATOR MARTHA IKABONGO, INTERIM CHAIR ICOM INTERCOM

(7 Presentations × 7 minutes each)

Focus: AI in Management, Curation, Collections, Interpretation

- Goranka Horjan: *Managing Museum Knowledge in the Age of AI*
- Virginia Meredith Soenksen: *From Archive to Authority: Human-in-the-Loop Agentic AI for Museum Collections Stewardship - Online*
- Yumiko Tachibana: *Rethinking Museum Audiences in Japan: Using Audience Data to Inform Museum Policy and Practice*
- Fatma Ahmed Soliman: Pixels of Eternity: Reimagining Egypt's Heritage. *Online*

- Tatiana Nikolaeva: *Leo Tolstoy or AI? Preserving Literary Heritage in the Age of Artificial Intelligence - Online*
- Ghazala Salam: *Beyond Immersion: Reimagining Human Connection in the Age of AI - Online*
- Jurica Sabol *: Inclusive Museums for the Digital Era: Accessibility, Participation, and AI-Enhanced Cultural Experiences*

11:35 PM - 11:50 Q &A Session

11:50AM – 12:55 PM

PECHAKUCHA SESSION – Round 2 MODERATOR: REENA DEWAN INTERCOM Treasurer
(5 Presentations × 7 minutes each)

Focus: Audience Engagement, Data Systems, Digital Access

- Juliana Vosnika: *AI Resources in Museums: anticipating risks and increasing the operational efficiency of security teams. A case study of the Oscar Niemeyer Museum (Brazil) - Online*
- Siddhant Shah: CultureD – Ability & AI Tools in Museums for Disability Inclusion
- Sakshi Jain: From Craft to Screen: Designing AI-Driven Heritage Experiences in the Making of a New Jewellery in Jaipur
- Sana Durrani: *"Future of the Museums vs. Museum of the Future: A South Asian Lens on Transforming Museums with Emerging Technologies" - Online*
- Vinko Kovac : *The Way to Heritage Is Through the Stomach: Using Artificial Intelligence to "Unlock" a Historic Cookbook*

12:55 - 01:10 Q &A Session

01:10 – 02:30 PM
Lunch Break

02:30 – 03:15 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

AI: the Reimagined Museum Ecosystem – Manuel Rabaté, the KIRAN NADAR MUSEUM OF ART, New Delhi, India

03:15 – 03:30 PM
Tea / Coffee Break

03:30 – 05:00 PM -

03:30 PM - 04:00 PM - Mayank Gupta : Initiatives by the City Palace Museum on Conservation, Education

04:00PM - 04:30 PM - Meggie Savard: Presentation on Decision Making and Museum Governance - : The starting Point for Transformation and for Responding to the Climate Crisis - Working Group - online

04:30 - 04:35 - Nitin Menavlikar- GloriTel Digital LLP: Use of NFC and GPSTechnology in Multilingual Museum and Heritage Guided Tours

04:35 PM - 05:00PM - Hayk Mkrtchyan (ICOM Armenia): Presentation on the next Conference - online

05:05 PM POSTER SESSION:

Nandan Shastri and Kiran Java: 3 minutes

05:05 – 05:20 PM
Conference Closing

- Key Takeaways - Host or audience
- Vote of Thanks – Martha Ikabongo, interim Chair of INTERCOM

05:30 PM - 07:30PM (IST) (3:30CEST) INTERCOM annual meeting hybrid format

AGENDA FOR THE 2026 ANNUAL MEETING, UDAIPUR INDIA 25TH OCTOBER 2026

The INTERCOM Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, 25th October 2026, at 3:30 CEST during the conference at the City Palace Museum in Udaipur, India.

The agenda will include approval of minutes from the 2025 Annual Meeting in Dubai, the financial and annual reports, and updates on committee activities. Members wishing to propose an additional agenda item should do so during the meeting. We apologise for the short notice which are partly due to the re-organisation of the board

We are currently exploring options for hybrid participation. Additional information will be shared if a virtual option becomes available.

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. 2025 Annual Report in Dubai
3. 2026 Chair's Report
4. Financial report
5. INTERCOM Projects

   -INTERCOM Spark

   -Working Groups
6. Committee Activities

   - Organisation of the new board

   - Participation in the Heritage on Stage

   - Participation in NEMO
7. ICOM Working Group for International Committees - Ms Reena Dewan

   INTERCOM Treasurer was appointed as a member of the SAREC Committee
8. 2027 Sarec Projects

   -Global Leadership Survey

   -ICME Postcolonial museum governance
9. Communications - miniwebsite, instagram, LinkedIn, Youtube
10. Networking - Museum Leadership House with Sofia Widmann
11. Adoption of INTERCOM Acronym and Internal Statutes